

COUNTRY Hungary

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REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Guard Battalion of the Ministry of National Defense in Budapest.

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. Prior to 20 December 1950, the guard battalion of the Ministry of National Defense was quartered in the Tancsics Mihaly Barracks, formerly Kadetaki Barracks, Budapest. Until the fall of 1949, it was stationed in the Salka Mate Barracks, formerly Kadik Barracks. The Tancsics Mihaly Barracks, a three-story barracks installation in good condition, was southwest of Margaretan Bridge, on the west bank of the Danube River, and is bounded by Teclgyia Street and Palfy Square on the east, Ben Jozsef Street on the south and Palfy Street on the north. The main entrance faced Palfy Square. A garage of about 40 x 10 meters was connected to the installation.

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2. [redacted] It was inspected by a lieutenant colonel of the AVH in November 1950. [redacted]

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[redacted] It was under the control of the AVH. The troops of the battalion wore green service color without branch-of-service insignia. \*

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3. The following staff was at the battalion headquarters: Major Gyula Adorjan, commanding officer; Lieutenant Jakab, (fnu), adjutant; Major Lajos Lenyi, political officer; Lieutenant Bernyak, (fnu), party secretary; a D-officer; a surgeon; an ordnance officer; an NCO in charge of matters pertaining to the Democratic Youth Organization; and 6 clerks. A supply platoon of about 50 troops, commanded by Captain Szavari, (fnu), was assigned directly to the Headquarters.

4. The battalion included 3 rifle companies, with 3 platoons to a company, and 3 squads to a platoon. Each company had 3 or 4 officers, 10 to 12 NCO's, and 110 M. Officers of the rifle companies included Junior Lieutenants Simon, (fnu), of the 1st Co; Szigetvari, (fnu), of the 2d Co; and Lajos Kunjadi of the 3d Co. The battalion had also a heavy machine gun company [redacted]. The company numbered 1 officer, 12 NCOs, and 100 M and was organized into 3 platoons of 3 squads each. Each squad consisted of 1 squad leader, 2 riflemen, 1 ammunition bearer, and 7 or 8 soldiers. Squad leaders were armed with submachine guns, M with rifles. The company was equipped with a total of 12 heavy Maxim machine guns.

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5. The guard battalion was equipped with 4 x 3-ton Raba trucks, 4 x 1.5-ton trucks, 2 special police vans seating 32 men each, and 1 passenger car.
6. The battalion furnished sentries for the Ministry of National Defense, the military prison at 95 Martirok Street, and the Zalka Mate Barracks. The guard detail detached to the Ministry of National Defense was commanded by an officer and consisted of 42 to 45 men. It was on duty for 24 hours and was relieved at 3:00 p.m. on workdays and at 1:00 p.m. on Sundays. The individual sentries successively went through a routine of 2 hours' guard duty, 2 hours' stand-by duty, and 2 hours' rest. Nine sentries were on duty by day, and 12 sentries at night. The main entrance of the ministry, the guard room, the room of the commander of the guard, and a reception room were located in the southern wing of the ministry fronting on Larko Street. The entrance in the eastern wing of the ministry, fronting on Honved Street, which was used by ministry employees and vehicles, was guarded by an NCO. The western wing of the ministry on Falk Miksa Street had been rebuilt and was 8 or 9 stories high. The other wings had only four stories. The guard personnel detached to the military prison numbered 30 to 35 in November 1950. No details were available on the guard of the Zalka Mate Barracks.

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Comment. It is doubted that the guard battalion is subordinate to the AVH, since internal security troops wear blue service color.

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